

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Cord Meyer, Jr.
SA/DDCI
SUBJECT : CIA Emergency Planning

This brief summarizes CIA's requirements for emergency planning, the Agency's emergency posture, notes our deficiencies and proposes some immediate remedies. In this context "emergency planning" means those measures taken to insure uninterrupted operation of essential functions under emergency conditions, including those conditions which might require the relocation or reconstitution of Headquarters or Field elements.

1. CIA's emergency planning requirements stem from four sources:

a. Executive Order 11490, as amended by Executive Order 11921 of 11 June 1976, charges each department and agency to develop such plans and take such action as may be necessary to assure that it can perform its essential function "during any emergency that might conceivably occur." The Executive Order requires that these actions include:

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"plans for maintaining the continuity of essential functions of the department or agency at the seat of government and elsewhere, through programs concerned with (1) succession to office; (2) predelegation of emergency authority; (3) safekeeping of essential records; (4) emergency relocation sites supported by communications and required services; (5) emergency action steps; (6) alternate headquarters or command facilities; and (7) protection of Government resources, facilities, and personnel."

The Executive Order further provides that these activities shall be guided and evaluated by the Director of the Federal Preparedness Agency (FPA).

b. Pursuant to Executive Order 11490, CIA has been designated by the FPA as a Category A Executive Agency. This means that CIA, as a key civilian agency, is required to maintain a capability to perform its mission under all emergency conditions, including nuclear attack on the United States. Consequently, FPA has required the Agency to participate in its emergency relocation planning--to provide rosters of cadres to go to relocation sites, succession lists, emergency coordinators, etc.

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f. There is no focal point at an Agency-wide level for addressing and coordinating these matters. Our relations with JCS and FPA are handled separately by DDA and DDO components. The officers handling these relationships agree that their functions should be coordinated at an Agency-wide level.

4. I have concluded that the first step in addressing and correcting these deficiencies should be to centralize the responsibility for emergency planning within the Agency. This would ensure that an Agency-wide emergency plan is developed and maintained, that adequate consultation and coordination is achieved, and that significant issues are addressed and resolved (an Agency-wide committee on emergency planning might be useful in this regard). Therefore, I recommend that, since this function would dovetail with the responsibilities of the Operations Center, that the Emergency Coordinator role be transferred from the Office of Logistics to the Operations Center. Similarly, the responsibility for Agency coordination of JCS emergency plans should be transferred from the DDO to the Operations Center. However, planning for CIA overseas station support to military commanders would continue to be the responsibility of the DDO. Centralizing this responsibility would in no way interfere with the day-to-day relationship between various Agency components and other government agencies on intelligence, operational, or support matters. Under this proposal, the Chief of the Operations

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emergency planning and ensuring that the Agency's plans and arrangements for coping with emergencies are realistic, current, flexible, adequate to the Agency's responsibilities and are in concert with the emergency planning of the other components of the Intelligence Community, the FPA, the JCS, and the White House.

Cord Meyer, Jr.

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6/30/76

I. BRIEF STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Under Office of Emergency Preparedness [now Federal Preparedness Agency (FPA)] Circular 9100.2, issued pursuant to Executive Order 11490, CIA has been designated a Category A executive agency which requires it to maintain "... a capability for uninterrupted emergency operations including the immediate preattack, transattack and postattack periods." In addition there is a ~~common~~ ^{Command} relationship responsibility to provide certain intelligence support to military operations of the Department of Defense (DoD) during wartime and major crises. The "uninterrupted emergency operations" of the Agency have not been defined. The roles of the DCI and the IC Staff during wartime or major crises have not been defined. The support that the DCI will have during such periods has not been defined. The role and authority of the Agency participation in the current preparedness programs of FPA is shared primarily among the Administration, Operations, and Intelligence directorates, while the Operations directorate works with the DoD on military emergency planning. Responsibility for coordinating all of these fragmented preparedness efforts on behalf of CIA has been placed in a Planning Officer in the Office of Logistics (OL), DDA, who can devote his attention to it only on a part-time basis and not with the degree of success that such a critical program deserves. The issue, in summary, is that emergency planning, as it is envisioned by FPA, is a high level responsibility which should be established at the Director or IC Staff level.

II. DIRECTORATES AND COMPONENTS INVOLVED:
(Identify Primary Action Component or Directorate)

The entire Agency, and perhaps the IC Staff as well, are concerned with the success or failure of the preparedness program; however, the primary action component at the moment is the Office of Logistics.

III. FACTS BEARING ON ISSUE:

Until early 1970, emergency preparedness responsibilities were vested in a full-time Emergency Coordinator and staff under the direction of the Executive-Director Comptroller. In 1970, when that officer retired, the preparedness functions were transferred to a Directorate for Administration senior staff where they remained until June of 1973. At that time, responsibilities and the title of Emergency Coordinator were assigned to the Plans and Programs Staff, OL.

The FPA requirements for maintenance of up-to-date relocation personnel rosters, succession-to-office lists, telephone lists, clearance/badging of selected individuals, locating action officers to serve on interagency committees studying various aspects of emergency preparedness, and the various administrative tasks associated with the program have been carried out on a part-time basis by the Emergency Coordinator and his alternate to the best of their combined abilities. There has not been the time, the expertise, nor the clout, however, to pursue the major issues of the preparedness program and resolve the questions which have been raised repeatedly over the past several years.

The Office of Logistics has a definite responsibility for planning for logistical support during times of emergencies, and would be a part of the total Agency planning effort to that extent; however, its current responsibility for that total Agency effort is misplaced.

IV. EXTERNAL PRESSURES BEARING ON ISSUE:

The Federal Preparedness Agency looks to the CIA Emergency Coordinator to answer for ^{CIP} on all preparedness matters. Because of the internal fragmentation of interests and responsibilities, he must work closely with the Chief of the CIA Operations Center in order to respond to many of those questions.

The Department of Defense historically has attempted to dilute the role, or certainly the authority, of CIA in wartime as evidenced by draft plans and agreements. Resolutions of those questions are beyond the capabilities of the Emergency Coordinator.

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Remarks:

DUE DATE: 24 November 76

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dick

Attached is a proposal from Cord Meyer that the role of CIA Emergency Coordinator and the ~~responsibility~~ responsibility for coordinating JCS emergence plans be transferred from the DDA and DDO/ ☐ respectively, to the Chief of the Operations Center. Cord would like your comments by Wednesday, November 24th. I can think of no reason to object, nor can I think of a better recommendation. I propose, therefore, to coordinate in your name.

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Mark

Wholeheartedly

RL

Date

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